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The Advisor

Jan/Feb 2006

A York County Newsletter for Professional Horticulturists
And Workers in the Green Industry

2006 Calendar of Events

- Jan 9-12 **VTC 46th Annual Turf & Landscape Conference and Trade Show**, Richmond, VA. www.vaturf.org, 757-464-1004
- Jan 11-13 **The Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show (MANTS)**, Baltimore, MD. www.mants.com
- Jan 18-20 **Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show**, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. www.midam.org
- Jan 20-22 **Virginia Flower and Garden Show**, Virginia Beach Pavilion, Virginia Beach, VA. www.vafgs.org, 757-853-0057
- Jan 21-25 **14th Annual Conference & Trade Show of US Composting Council**, Albuquerque, NM. (Note location change)
www.compostingcouncil.org/section.cfm?id=12
- Jan 23-25 **The Central Environmental Nursery Trade Show "CENTS" 2006**, Columbus, OH. www.onla.org/cents.html
- Jan 24-26 **Unified Wine & Grape Symposium**, Sacramento, CA. www.unifiedsymposium.org/home.htm
- Jan 25-27 **Virginia Grown Conference and Trade Show**, Richmond, VA. www.vfdma.org/vagrown.html 540-667-9101
- Jan 26 **Coastal Turf Grass Conference**, Manteo, NC. Tom Campbell, thomas_campbell@ncsu.edu 252-338-3954
- Jan 30-Feb 2 **Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course (MAHSC)**, Virginia Beach, VA. www.mahsc.org
- Feb 5-8 **National Biodiesel Conference and Expo, 2006**, San Diego, CA. www.biodieselconference.org/2006/conference/
- Feb 5-10 **8th International Mango Symposium**, Sun City, South Africa. www.mangosa2006.co.za/index.htm
- Feb 9-12 **17th Annual Maymont Flower & Garden Show**, Greater Richmond Convention Center Exhibit Hall, Richmond, VA.
www.maymont.org/events/flower_show.asp. 804-358-7166 flowershow@maymont.org
- Feb 15-18 **41st Annual National Farm Machinery Show and Championship Tractor Pull**, Louisville, KY.
www.maera.org/pages/nfmshow.html
- Feb 21-22 **Virginia Agriculture Summit**, Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA. Sponsored by VDACS, VCE, and others,
www.agsummit.com, [Chris Cook](#) at 804-290-1111.
- Feb 21-24 **kiwi2006 - 6th International Kiwifruit Symposium**, Rotoura, New Zealand. www.kiwi2006.com
- Feb 22-25 **Mid-Atlantic Direct Marketing Conference**, Reading, PA. www.madmc.com, Cathy Belcher 804-786-4046
- Feb 23-26 **Capital Home and Garden Show**, Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly, VA.
www.capitalhomeshow.com/exhibitors/spring2006/reasons.html
- Feb 24 **Green Matters Symposium: After the Rain, Water Management**, Visitor's Center, Wheaton, MD.
www.mc-mncppc.org/parks/brookside/greenmatters/greenmatters.shtm
- Feb 28-Mar 2 **1st International Organic Apple and Pear Symposium**, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada.
www.oacc.info/AppleSymposium/program.html
- Mar 5-12 **Philadelphia Flower Show**, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA. www.philadelphiaflowershow.com
or www.theflowershow.com
- May 11-17 **2006 World Rose Convention**, Osaka, Japan. www.worldrose-osaka2006.jp/roseinjapan/index.html
- May 23-27 **Chelsea Flower Show**, Birmingham, England. www.rhs.org.uk/chelsea/2005/index.asp

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, veteran status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

DOLLARS & SENSE**VIRGINIA POLLINATOR**

Are you ready for spring blossoms? Now is the time to line up bees. If you have bees to rent for pollination or need bees to pollinate your fields or orchards, check out VDACS's website at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant&pest/pollinator.html

NEED SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE?

Looking for solutions to your business challenges? Contact the [Virginia Business Information Center](http://www.vbic.state.va.us), at 804-371-0438, toll-free at 1-866-248-8814 or via email at VBIC@dba.state.va.us. This is a free service of the Virginia Department of Business Assistance (DBA): <http://www.dba.state.va.us/>. Use DBA's [Business Resource Center](#) to find local and regional assistance resources around the state. Or the Business Launch Pad to create a step-by-step guide for starting your business. And find out about economic development programs and seminars around the State of Virginia in DBA's comprehensive [Calendar of Events](#).

ANLA 2006 MANAGEMENT CLINIC

American Nursery and Landscape Association 2006 Management Clinic will be held Feb 1 – 4 in Louisville, KY. ANLA states that "The Management Clinic represents the green industry's only training event focused exclusively on business skills for owners and managers of garden centers, landscape firms, landscape distributors and growers." The Clinic attracts 1000+ green industry professionals each year from across North America for an outstanding professional and personal development educational and networking event and offers 78 business changing workshops. www.anla.org/events/ManagementClinic/index.htm

2006 RENEWAL ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM (SECTION 9006)

Need greenhouse energy curtains? Switch to cheaper fuel? The USDA Rural Development Business program is preparing to announce the FY 2006 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Program. The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, Sec 9006, directs the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans, loan guarantees, and grants to farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses to purchase renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements. Anyone interested in this program should contact his or her USDA RD State Office representative. Virginia's RD is Laurette Tucker, Culpeper Building, Suite 238, 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Richmond, VA 23229, Phone 804-287-1594, laurette.tucker@va.usda.gov www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/

VA 2006 FOREST TREE PLANTING CONTACTS

VA Dept of Forestry is soliciting bids from forest tree planting contractors to plant pine seedlings during the 2006 planting season on the Appomattox-Buckingham and Cumberland State Forests. Submission deadline: Jan 11, 2006, 2:00 pm.

www.dof.virginia.gov/genserv/resources/sf-2006-01-11-tree-plant.pdf

CALIFORNIA PACK TRIALS

The 2006 California Pack Trials will be held from April 1-12. For more information on hosting companies, please visit: www.ngb.org/pack_trials/index.cfm.

**CALIFORNIA CALLA SPRING PACK TRIALS**

Golden State Bulb Growers' Callifornia Calla® Demonstration Trial is scheduled for April 1-7. For appointments, e-mail: scortez@goldenstatebulb.com www.goldenstatebulb.com/pages/springpacktrials.html

WHITE FLIES Q-BIOTYPE STRAIN

The Q-Biotype of the *Bemisia tabaci* whitefly is now the most prevalent type in the Mediterranean basin.



Q-Biotype is resistant to many of the insecticides that are effective against the previously dominant B-Biotype. The Q-Biotype has greatly complicated insect management in the Mediterranean basin, significantly increasing the use of insecticides.

In Dec 2004, whitefly specimens of the Q-Biotype were collected from a retail market in Tucson, Arizona. As of Dec 20, 2006, the whitefly Q biotype has been found in 18 states, from coast to coast, including in Maryland on poinsettias.

www.agnr.umd.edu/ipmnet/05Nov23G.pdf.

Now is the time to review Best Management Practices, clean and eliminate any remnant white fly populations, and fine tune your IPM white fly plan to treat for both Q and B biotypes (Q biotype is physically indistinguishable from the B biotype). Good scouting will be a key to control. Check out these links for the latest research and information to help develop your plan.

<http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/iso/bemisia/bemisia.htm#Documents>

<http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/iso/best.htm>

<http://whiteflies.ifas.ufl.edu/>

<http://pest.ifas.ufl.edu/CMSP-2005/10cmSP05%20files/10cmSP05-L03.htm>

CANADIAN NUTRITION LABELING REQUIREMENTS

The new Canadian nutritional labeling law is now in effect. This law applies to any value-added fresh fruit or vegetable product with labeling implying that the product has health benefits. For more information access the Canadian Fruit Inspection Agency (CFIA) web site.

www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/labeti/labetrie.shtml

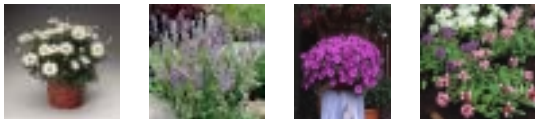
E.Y.I.**EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) QUARANTINED AREAS**

On Nov 4, 2005, USDA announced regulations to amend EAB existing quarantine areas by adding areas in Indiana, Michigan and Ohio to the list of quarantined areas, and is restricting the interstate movement of regulated articles from these quarantined areas.

EAB is an invasive species of wood-boring beetles, native to China and eastern Asia that targets ash trees in North America. It was first detected in July of 2002 in southeastern Michigan and has since been found in Ohio, Indiana, Maryland and Virginia. EAB quarantines restrict the movement of all hardwood species of firewood, nursery stock and green lumber, among other items.

2006 GOLD MEDAL PLANT AWARDS

the international organization for the ornamental plants industry award winners are:



- *Argythamum frutescens* 'Molimba Mini White' (*Argywhimi* (p))
 - *Lavandula angustifolia* 'Ellagance Sky'
 - *Petunia* 'Viva Fluor Rose 2006' (*Flortunia fluor-rose* (p))
 - *Prunella grandiflora* 'Freelander'
- www.fleuroselect.com/goldmedals.php

THE PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY has announced their 2006 Gold Medal Plant Awards.

- *Eleutherococcus sieboldianus* 'Variegatus' (Beauty Briar)
- *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight' (Panicle Hydrangea)
- *Maackia amurensis* 'Starburst' ('Starburst' Amur Maackia)
- *Quercus palustris* 'Pringreen' (Green Pillar® Pin Oak)
- *Wisteria frutescens* 'Amethyst Falls' (American Wisteria)

For pictures, descriptions and characteristics, go to:
www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org/garden/goldwinners.html

MANY A SMALL THING HAS BEEN MADE LARGE BY THE RIGHT KIND OF ADVERTISING... MARK TWAIN, AUTHOR

WWW.QUOTATIONSPAGE.COM

- U.S. Postal Service is increasing rates on Jan 8th.
- Newspaper circulation is dropping – according to Newspaper Association of America; the past three years' circulation decreased each year. From April through September 2005, weekday's circulation declined 2.6% and Sunday's 3.1%

Question: Where to spend limited dollars to reach future customers. Time to examine your options.

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EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**VIRGINIA CERTIFIED HORTICULTURIST PROGRAM**

SHORT COURSE, sponsored by Central Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association and VCE, will be held Jan 18-20 at Henrico County Government Center, Richmond, VA. www.cvnl.org/short-course.htm

HORTICULTURIST EXAM

Jan 30 MAHSC, Virginia Beach, Register by Jan 16th.

Mar 2 Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks, VA.

Mar 13 Henrico Complex, Richmond, VA.

Mar 16 Central VA Comm. College, Lynchburg, VA.

Mar 18 Lancaster Farms, Suffolk, VA.

www.vnla.org/events.htm 800-476-0055

GREENHOUSE SHORT COURSE

Maryland Cooperative Extension sponsored greenhouse short course will be held Jan 23-27 at the Montgomery County Extension Office, Derwood, MD. Learn more on greenhouse production methods and how to start or improve your existing business from a group of Extension experts, private industry specialists and lead growers from Maryland greenhouses. Register by Jan 16th for reduced price that includes lunch. For agenda, speakers, and registration details go to:

www.agnr.umd.edu/ipmnet/06JanGHC.pdf

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR RECERTIFICATION COURSES

New! Now you can order Pesticide Applicator Training Manuals using your credit card from the VCE Distribution Center by phone at 540-231-1325.

Category 3A, 3B, 5A, 6, 10, 60

Jan 10, Richmond, Tom Tracy, 757-464-1004

Jan 11-12****, Richmond, Tom Tracy, 757-464-1004

Jan 18**, CVNLA Short Course, Henrico County Gov't

Complex, Richmond, Karen Carter, 804-501-5160

Jan 20*, Fort Royal, Bill Whittle, 540-778-5794

Jan 25*, Danville, Stuart Sutphin, 434-799-6558

Jan 25*, Annandale, Mary Bean, 703-250-1368

Jan 27*, Charlottesville, Peter Warren, 434-872-4580

Feb 2, Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course, Virginia Beach, Shirley Elstrodt, 757-787-9451

Feb 15***, Fredericksburg, Regina Prunty, 540-775-3062

Feb 24, Hampton, Scott Ewers, 757-727-1401

Mar 24, Virginia Beach Central Library, Virginia Beach, Susan French, 757-427-4769

Jun 15**, Leesburg, Debbie Dillion, 703-771-5838

Jun 15(-Cat10), Williamsburg, Tom Tracy, 757-464-1004

Jun 15, Norfolk, Susan French, 757-427-4769

*less 5A; **less 5A&6; ***less 5A&10; ****less 6&10.

For registration or more information contact the phone number listed for each training location.

Complete listing of courses for recertification of Virginia Certified Commercial Pesticide Applicators can be found at the following VDACS web site:

www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pesticides/pending.html

FEATURE ARTICLE – SHORT TAKES ON LABOR

PAYCHECKS DECLINE... Per the Christian Science Monitor, Nov 7, 2005, for the past three years, inflation has risen faster than worker's hourly earnings. And for the first three quarters of 2005, American workers earned 2.3 percent less than they did the previous year after inflation. In addition to global competition, other downward pressure factors include cost of benefits, companies absorbing energy costs by cutting pay hikes, government policies or lack thereof, weak bargaining power of unions (New York MTA was unique) -- as reflected in layoffs and pay cuts exemplified by the airline industry, automobile and clothing manufactures, part suppliers, and the list goes on. Hardest hit are workers with the lowest education and single skills, which includes middle class workers in many of these jobs.

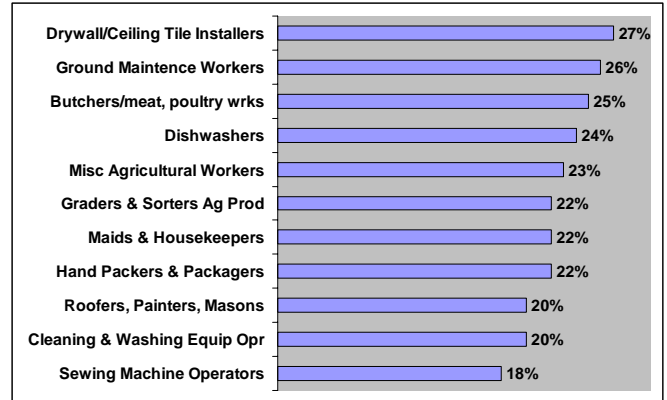
ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WORK FORCE DEMOGRAPHICS



This section is based on a PEW Hispanic Center briefing paper prepared by Jeffery S. Passel. (see source below)

How many and who are there? Based on a PEW Hispanic Center briefing paper, of the 37.5 million immigrants in the U.S. in March 2004, 29% or 10.4 million were unauthorized (illegal) immigrants. Of these, approximately 81% were from Latin America with most arriving since 1990. Since 1990, there has been a major shift in distribution percents away from the big six settlement states (CA, NY, TX, FL, IL, & NJ). **North Carolina** is now a major destination and **Virginia** is a new "large state" with a population of 200,000—250,000 unauthorized immigrants. While young males age 18-39 continue to dominate at 45%, young women are significant at 36% and children account for 14%. An additional 3.1 million kids of unauthorized immigrants are U.S. citizens by birth. This results in 13.9 million persons in unauthorized families of mixed composition. Educationally in the 25-64-age population arriving in the last ten years, 45% are not high school graduates, but 19% hold college degrees. In summary, unauthorized immigrants are mainly in families, relatively young, and usually of low education, low income, high poverty, and lack health insurance.

Where do they work? The most concentrated broad occupational groupings are farming, cleaning/maintenance, construction, food preparation, production and transport where the percentage of illegals exceeds their proportion of 4.3 percent across the workforce. Within these broad occupation groupings, there are selected occupations with very high concentrations of unauthorized migrants. The following specific occupation groups have both significant numbers and high concentrations of unauthorized migrants. For example, more than 1 out of every 4 (or 26%) of ground maintenance workers in the U.S. is an unauthorized migrant. These occupations generally share similar characteristics—no governmental licensing or education credentials are required.



Source: <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/46.pdf>

SHORT TAKES TO FILL IN THE BIG PICTURE

- Tighten border control and raids shift workers away from California/Arizona; some immigrants remain home.
- California and Arizona vegetable growers estimate they could be short 32,000 workers out of 54,000 needed for winter harvest. Lettuce to rot in fields.
- Raisin growers in San Joaquin Valley have \$300 million loss due to worker shortages last September.
- While Florida may not need as many seasonal field workers due to four hurricanes, particularly Wilma, there are impending agricultural worker shortages.
- Brazil is an emerging agricultural superpower that will exert a growing influence on Virginia agriculture in the years ahead.
- Booming construction industry is luring agricultural workers to year-round jobs with better pay. A Williamsburg golf course lost immigrant workers to construction.
- Some Western truck farmers have increased wages to above minimum wage; many offer a bonus of \$50 for each full week worked.
- An attempt to hire 300 temp workers at state employment office in Imperial County (17.6% unemployment rate) yielded one worker who quit after half-day's work.
- A sweeping border enforcement bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on Dec 16th would make illegal presence in the United States a federal crime, order employers to verify their workers' legal status, and build a fence across most of the Arizona-Mexico border.
- The bill does not address temporary-work visas for existing unauthorized immigrants, issues of a guest worker program or other means to fill the jobs that now attract millions of undocumented workers. The Senate is expected to take up immigration legislation in Feb.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts there could be 5 to 6 million more jobs than available workers by 2008.
- H2B visa program mandated cap for first half of FY2006 of 33,000 has been reached.

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